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Date: April 24, 2002
Phone: (089) 2195 - 2807
Serial No. 100 60 666.0-53
Applicant: LG Electronics Inc.
Your Ref.: OPP-AZ-1999-0283-
DE-00

Request for Examination, day of payment: December 6, 2000.

Amendment dated , received on

Examination of the above-identified patent application has revealed the result indicated below. A response is due within a period of

four months

upon receipt of this Office Action.

Any documents filed along with the Response (e.g. patent claims, specification, parts of the specification, drawings) are required in duplicate each on separate sheets. Only one copy of the Response itself is needed.

If the patent claims, the specification or the drawings are amended during the examination procedure, Applicant is requested - unless these amendments are proposed by the Patent Office - to individually mark the passages in the originally filed documents disclosing the features described in the new documents.

The numbering of the citations which are mentioned hereinbelow for the first time will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

p.t.o.

Note on the possibility of branching off a utility model application:

The Applicant of a patent application effectively filed in the Federal Republic of Germany after January 1, 1987, may file a utility model application relating to the same subject-matter and at the same time claiming the filing date of the prior patent application. Such a branched-off utility model application (Section 5 of the Utility Models Act) may be filed within a period of 2 months from the end of the very month in which the patent application became abandoned on account of a legally valid rejection, voluntary withdrawal or fictive withdrawal, when opposition proceedings were terminated or - in case a patent is granted - when the time-limit for appealing the decision of grant lapsed to no effect. Detailed information on the requirements to be met by a utility model application, including the branching off, is provided by the "Merkblatt für Gebrauchsmusteranmelder (G6181)" (Leaflet for Utility Model Applicants) which can be obtained free of charge from the Patent Office and in the Public Inspection Hall in the Patent Office.

- (1) DE 19604647 A1
- (2) DE 69214585 T2
- (3) DE 19524919 A1

I.

The subject-matter of the present main claim was rendered obvious to the man skilled in the art by the state of the art before the priority day of the present patent application.

Namely, known from Document (1) relating to the display of information on a television receiver (screen)
is a method of assisting a user to display an illustration on a display screen in response to a user's input (claims and Figs. 6A and 6B).

The feature of displaying a connection between a main device and a peripheral device and how to connect the main device to the peripheral device, follows from Document (2) (particularly Figs. 1 to 4). This document describes quite generally the connection between two devices.

Based on the object in question, it is obvious to a man of the art who is concerned with the display of information and the implementation of graphs on a display that other information are displayed in a display picture of the type known from Document (1). For this purpose the information to be displayed which follow from Document (2) must only be stored in a memory. In this fashion the man skilled in the art is led to the subject-matter of the main claim on the basis of these two prior art documents.

The present main claim is not allowable since its subject-matter does not involve an inventive step.

The above observations also apply to independent claim 6 which is distinguished from the main claim only by the display of a connecting portion.

Also in this case it is only another graph made available to the display system and subsequently displayed.

The same applies to independent claims 12 and 16 directed to a device whose features do not go beyond the device features recited in claims 1 and 6.

II.

The subclaims do not disclose any patentable matter either.

Regarding claims 2 and 13 wherein a television receiver or a PC is used as a display device, the Examiner cites e.g. Document (3) (Abstract and Fig. 1).

The features of claims 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 18 are special designs in which only different illustrations (with/without colour emphasis) are displayed.

The features of claims 7 and 17 regarding the display of animations provide a variation which is known to the man skilled in the art.

Document (1) (claims and Figs. 6A and 6B) is cited vis-à-vis claims 10, 11, 19, 20, 21 and 22.

The feature of claim 14 only describes which peripheral device is connected. Instructions about the connection of different devices are known to the man skilled in the art and thus must only be realized electronically.

Also the feature of claim 15 merely is a requirement for the memory size.

Document (1) (claims) is cited vis-à-vis claim 24.

III.

Provided prosecution of the application is not continued, the Applicant is kindly asked to send a short notice (declaration of withdrawal) to the Examiner or at least to acknowledge receipt of this office action.

Otherwise the Applicant is invited

- a) to file new clarified claims delimited against the closest prior art, the main claim of which describes a clear and complete accomplishment by technical means and measures, respectively,
- b) to state a precise, unambiguously clear and positively worded object,
- c) to prove that newly incorporated features, if any, have been disclosed as essential for the invention,
- d) to explain the advantages of the newly claimed subject and to discuss in all detail the inventive step involved over and above the cited prior art and the technical knowledge of those having ordinary skills in the art, and
- e) to acknowledge the prior art (according to the citations) in the specification.

However, if the application is upheld on the basis of the claims in their present form or in a version identical in content or without remedying the above-discussed unclarities, its rejection must be expected on expiration of the legal response period.

Examiner in charge of class G06F

Dipl.-Ing. Kühn

Assistant: Dipl.-Ing. Hoffmann

Extension: 2383

Enclosures: Copies of Documents (1) to (3), in triplicate.